

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. – 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A printing agent service method, comprising:

receiving a print request and a user ID from a client terminal;

determining whether the user indicated by the user ID has used the printing agent service in the past;

retrieving a predetermined number of most recently used printing agent printer sites selected in the past by the user indicated by the user ID in response to determining that the user indicated by the user ID has used the printing agent service in the past;

sending to the client terminal, as candidates for printing agent printer sites to be selected by the user, information indicating the predetermined number of most recently used printing agent printer sites selected in the past by the user indicated by the user ID;

receiving a print request and location information from a the client terminal when the user ID indicates that the user has not used the printing agent service in the past;

retrieving, in response to the location information, a printing agent printer site nearest to the a location of the client terminal based on the location information;

sending to the client terminal, as a candidate for a printing agent printer site to be selected
by a user, information of indicating the nearest printing agent printer site to nearest to the
location of the client terminal for display in response to receiving the location information;

selecting a printer agent printing site from the candidate site(s) sent to the client terminal;

receiving the printing agent printer site ~~specified~~ selected by the client terminal, and
sending the print data of the print request to a printer at the ~~specified~~ selected printing agent
printer site; and

~~receiving a user ID from the client terminal, and sending to the client terminal a~~
~~predetermined number of most recently used printing agent printer sites selected in the past by~~
~~the user indicated by the user ID;~~

~~receiving a selected printer agent printing site from the predetermined number of most~~
~~recently used printing agent printer sites; and~~

printing the print data at the ~~selected printer~~ selected printing agent printing printer site
when a client who has sent the print request instructs printout at the selected printing agent
printer site.

20. (Currently Amended) A printing agent service system, comprising:

a client terminal to specify a print request, location information and a user ID;

a database for storing printing agent printer sites; and

a server for receiving ~~[[a]]~~ the print request, and the location information and the user ID
from ~~[[a]]~~ the client terminal, and for controlling printing of the print request at a printing agent
printer site,

wherein the server determines whether the user indicated by the user ID has used the
printing agent service system in the past, and, in response to determining that the user indicated
by the user ID has used the printing agent service system in the past, retrieves from the database
and sends to the client terminal a predetermined number of most recently used printing agent
printer sites selected in the past by the user indicated by the user ID as candidates for selection by
the user,

~~retrieving, from the database,~~ wherein the server retrieves from the database and sends to
the client terminal, as a candidate for selection by the user, a the printing agent printer site
nearest to the location of the client terminal in accordance with the location information if the
server determines that the user indicated by the user ID has not used the printing agent service in
the past,

~~wherein the server sends information of the nearest printing agent printer site to the client~~
~~terminal for display, and thereafter,~~

wherein the server receives from the client terminal a ~~specified~~ selected printing agent
printer site, and sends print information of the print request to a printer at the specified printing
agent printer site; and

~~wherein the server receives a user ID from the client terminal, and sends to the client terminal a predetermined number of most recently used printing agent printer sites selected in the past by the user indicated by the user ID;~~

~~wherein the server receives from the client terminal a printer agent printing site selected from the predetermined number of most recently used printer agent printing sites; and~~

wherein the printer performs a printout at the selected ~~printer~~ printing agent ~~printing printer~~ site when a client who has sent the print request instructs the printout at the selected printing agent printer site.

21. (Currently Amended) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, wherein the sending ~~comprises~~ steps comprise sending map information showing the nearest printing agent printer site based on the location information.

22. (Currently Amended) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, wherein the receiving location information from a client terminal comprises receiving GPS information from the client terminal.

23. (Currently Amended) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, wherein the retrieving a printing agent printer site nearest to a location of the client terminal comprises retrieving a current location of the client terminal based on the location information, and retrieving the printing agent printer site nearest to the current location.

24. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, further comprising:

receiving agent printing results from the printer, and sending the agent printing results to the client terminal.

25. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, further comprising:

automatically debiting a specified account for an agent printing fee in accordance with the agent printing results.

26. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, further comprising:

instructing printing that includes an advertisement to the printer in accordance with an advertisement-included printing specification from the client terminal; and

discounting a printing fee in accordance with the agent printing that includes an advertisement.

27. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service method according to claim 19, further comprising:

sending an agent printing fee to the client terminal in accordance with the agent printing results.

28. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server sends map information showing the nearest printing agent printer site based on the location information.

29. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server receives GPS information from the client terminal.

30. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server retrieves the current location of the client terminal based on the location information, and thereafter, retrieves a printing agent printer site nearest to the current location.

31 (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server receives agent printing results from the printer, and sends the agent printing results to the client terminal.

32. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server automatically debits a specified account for an agent printing fee in accordance with the agent printing results.

33. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server instructs printing that includes an advertisement to the printer in accordance

with an advertisement-included printing specification from the client terminal, and discounts a printing fee in accordance with the agent printing that includes an advertisement.

34. (Previously Presented) The printing agent service system according to claim 20, wherein the server sends an agent printing fee to the client terminal in accordance with the agent printing results.

35. (Currently Amended) A printing agent service method, comprising:
receiving a user ID, a print request and location information from a client terminal;
retrieving a printing agent printer site nearest to the location of the client terminal based on the location information; and
sending information of the nearest printing agent printer site to the client terminal for display[.];
receiving printing results from any printer at said printer agent printing sites; and
automatically debiting a specified account for an agent printing fee in accordance with the received printing results,

wherein if a user specified by the user ID has used any of the printing agent printer site(s) in the past, information of a predetermined number of printing agent printer sites which have been most recently used by the user is sent.

36. (Currently Amended) A printing agent service system, comprising:

a database for storing printing agent printer sites; and

a server for receiving a user ID, a print request and location information from a client terminal, and retrieving, from the database, the printing agent printer site nearest to the location of the client terminal in accordance with said location information,

wherein the server sends information of the nearest printing agent printer site to the client terminal for display,

receives from the client terminal a specified printing agent printer site, and sends the print request to a printer at the specified printing agent printer site, and

if a user specified by the user ID has used any of the printing agent printer site(s) in the past, information of a predetermined number of printing agent printer sites which have been most recently used by the user are sent, and.

wherein the server receives printing results from any printer at said printer agent printing sites and automatically debits a specified account for an agent printing fee in accordance with the agent printing results